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TERRORISM IN SKYE
SHERIFF IVORY'S LATEST FOLLY.

GLENDALE in the west of Skye, and Valtos in the north of the same Island, have again been honoured with special police and military expeditions, headed by the Sheriff of the County of Inverness—Mr William Ivory. Judging from what has taken place within the past few months, that gentleman would appear to be very fond of figuring at the head of military expeditions in the County which has the misfortune to be subject to his jurisdiction. For a long time the Home Secretary wisely refused to sanction the employment of an armed force in the Island of Skye, but latterly the representations of the Police Sub-Committee of the County of Inverness (a body which consists of three or four individuals, one of them being Mr William Ivory), induced Sir William Harcourt to sanction the employment of a force of marines in aid of the police of Skye; and now it seems as if this force could not be too frequently used to gratify what seems to be the vanity of the Sheriff of the County. Why that gentleman should insist on insulting the people under his jurisdiction, and holding the County of Inverness, or detached parts of it, up to the world as lawless and disorderly, unless it be from a diseased craving after notoriety and sham importance, it is impossible to say. It is, however, becoming a serious question for the public, and a particularly

serious one for the ratepayers of the County of Inverness, who are being put to thousands of pounds of absolutely unnecessary expense to gratify the ever-changing whims of this eccentric judicial officer.

This latest expedition to Skye is, if possible, even more unnecessary than the one which preceded it. To take the case of Valtos first. The crime with which the Valtos men are said to be charged, is that of preventing a sheriff-officer executing his duty in the month of December last. If this charge is well-founded, it is no doubt a serious one; but, in other parts of the County persons charged with the crime of deforcement are apprehended and brought to trial in the same way as persons charged with other offences. A police constable is sent to apprehend them, and they are brought before a judge, tried, and sentenced, without any unnecessary fuss. Why was this not done in Valtos? Police officers were stationed there in December last, and have been stationed there since, and nobody has ever heard that the ordinary police of the district were in any way interfered with in the performance of their duties. It is only when the landlords, at whose hands the people have suffered enough already, persist in insulting them by thrusting among them an additional and unnecessary force of police, that even the police are interfered with. But if something more than a mere police force was required to vindicate the law in Valtos, there has been a force of marines stationed at Staffin, in the immediate neighbourhood of Valtos, ever since the offence charged was committed, and for some time before it. The services of these men have never been required in any more serious duty than mounting sentry over the house where they are quartered; but if the police of the district were unable to cope with the crime of the district, it was surely very obvious that the marines, already on the spot, might be used to protect and assist them. This was far too simple a method, however, of dealing with an offence committed by crofters in the Isle of Skye. To dispose of the offence in this way would never sufficiently call the attention of the country to the fact that Skye was lawless and dangerous. A military expedition was therefore sent with a special and strong force of police to arrest the six men who were wanted by the authorities.

The case of Glendale is, in a manner, worse. A finer body of men than the Glendale people does not exist in the Island of Skye. In December last, a sheriff-officer, named Grant, from Inverness, went to Glendale to serve summonses. Grant himself, the people say, would have been permitted to go on his way unmolested, but he had the misfortune to have with him as a concurrent, a man belonging to the district, who had given the people some cause of offence, and whom they have had, they say, just cause to dislike for many years past. Mr Grant was also accompanied by a big and savage-looking dog, which, in no way, tended to conciliate the people among whom he went, on an unpopular errand—a people who were already irritated by the presence among them of a garrison of marines, and a force of police. In course of his journey through the Glen, the story of the people is, that Mr Grant got into a verbal altercation with some boys ; this led to the gathering of a crowd, which, formed of an excited people—with what they believed just cause of resentment against his companion—apparently frightened Mr Grant and he left the glen. What amount of violence, if any, was used to him and his companion, it is impossible to say until the trial brings it to light. Mr Grant's story and that of the people are entirely at variance on this subject. If Mr Grant's story is true, a criminal offence was committed, and if a criminal offence had been committed, the criminals were liable to arrest. There was a force of police and military in the glen who might have made the necessary arrest, but this method was not attempted. A still simpler method, it is no secret, was suggested, both to the Lord Advocate and to Sheriff Ivory, by the authorities in Portree, namely, that a single police officer should be sent to arrest the people charged, and to bring them to Portree, and it was stated, by the authorities at Portree, who have, and have had, the best opportunities for knowing the temper of the people they have to deal with, that all the arrests could have been made by a single police officer, though not by a larger number. This would, however, be letting the people of Glendale off far too easily, and it would besides be losing Mr Sheriff Ivory an opportunity, which might not recur again, for marching through Skye at the head of a force of marines—an amusement which he seems to enjoy.

None of the ordinary methods of enforcing the law having

commended themselves to its administrators, the people of Glendale themselves came forward to prevent the country being misled as to their character and disposition. At a meeting held at Glendale the day before the expedition landed at Colbost Bay, and when it was believed by the people that the expedition was still some days off, Messrs Alexander Mackenzie and Kenneth Macdonald, who were present at the meeting, were asked to inform the Home Secretary that the expedition was unnecessary, that no attempt had been made to carry out the ordinary course of law, and that any persons wanted by the authorities, provided their names were made known, would go at once to Portree or Inverness, and give themselves up. That night a telegram was sent to the Home Secretary, intimating the opinion and resolution of the people, and undertaking that the alleged offenders would give themselves up. The telegram was repeated to the Sheriff Clerk of the County for the information of the Sheriff, and also to Mr Fraser-Mackintosh, M.P., in order that he might communicate with the Home Secretary on the subject. Within a few hours after these telegrams were sent away from Dunvegan, the "Lochiel," with a body of police on board, (the troopship "Assistance" with a force of marines having preceeded her), steamed into Loch-Dunvegan, and early on the following morning the expedition landed, and arrested six men and boys. On the same day Messrs Mackenzie and Macdonald wrote the following letter to the Home Secretary, confirming their telegram:—

"PORTREE HOTEL, SKYE, 29th January 1885.

"*The Right Honourable Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Secretary of State for the Home Department, Whitehall, London, S.W.*

"SIR,—We had occasion to be in Glendale yesterday in connection with the Parliamentary representation of the County of Inverness, when a very large meeting of the people of the district united in asking us to communicate with you on the subject of a proposed police and military expedition to Glendale, having for its object the arrest of certain persons charged, it is understood, with the crime of deforcement. The people stated that there was no necessity for an expedition to arrest any of their number, because any of them who were wanted by the authorities would, if their names were communicated, go to Portree or to Inverness, and surrender themselves there. We accordingly, on our arrival in Dunvegan last night, sent you a telegram

in the following terms :—' From Alexander Mackenzie, editor of the *Celtic Magazine*, and Kenneth Macdonald, solicitor, Inverness, Dunvegan, to the Right Hon. Sir William Vernon Harcourt, Home Office, Whitehall, London. The people of Glendale have been informed that a police and military expedition is in preparation to arrest some of their number on a criminal charge. We were authorised, at a large public meeting held in Glendale to-day, to say to you and the criminal authorities—1st, That none of the people have been asked to give themselves up; and, 2nd, That if the criminal authorities name the persons wanted, they will go voluntarily to Portree or Inverness and give themselves up. We undertake this on their behalf. No expedition is therefore necessary, and to send one would cause needless irritation.' We also telegraphed to the Sheriff-Clerk of the County repeating the telegram for the information of the Sheriff. It was too late last night to write you from Dunvegan confirming the telegram, and this letter follows by the first possible mail for London. Since we telegraphed you, however, we have learned that early next morning, within about twelve hours of the transmission of our telegram, a force of marines and police landed in Glendale, and arrested six persons, all of whom, we believe, were parties to the resolutions transmitted to you last night. In the circumstances, it is almost needless to do more than confirm our telegram. We may add, however, that we are satisfied that had a single police constable been sent to Glendale, he could have arrested everyone of the persons in the district required by the authorities, and brought them to Portree. It seems, therefore, a pity that it should have been thought necessary to send such an expedition against a peaceable and well-disposed community; and they themselves complain, with apparent justice, that an exceptional method has been adopted for enforcing the law amongst them, without any attempt being made to enforce it in the ordinary way.—We are, sir, your most obedient servants,

(Signed) " A. MACKENZIE.
 " KENNETH MACDONALD."

Of course, as things turned out, the telegram was too late to stop the expedition, but it was not too late to show that the expedition was unnecessary and foolish.

The dignity of the law in the largest county in Scotland is in danger of being sacrificed, by such proceedings as we have criticised, to the vanity and the supposed dignity of the chief judicial officer of the county, and the public interest requires that in such circumstances we should not make use of uncertain language or honeyed phrases.

The County of Inverness, so long as its affairs are managed by a close conclave of lawyers, landlords, and factors, may submit to the payment of the cost of periodical excursions by Mr Sheriff Ivory and his "tail," in specially hired steamboats on the West Coast; but the amusement is a dangerous as well as an expensive one, and those who are responsible for this second excursion of the chief judicial officer of the County of Inverness to the Island of Skye, may, and probably will, find ere long that, of all possible methods of pacifying Skye, the attempt to accomplish this by terrorism is the most suicidal.

DEATH OF CLUNY MACPHERSON, C.B.

WE regret to have to record the death of Colonel Cluny Macpherson, C.B., in his 81st year, on the 11th of January last. He was universally allowed, taking him altogether, to be the most popular Highland chief, and deservedly so, of his time. He succeeded to the property in 1817, and, at his death, was longer in possession of his estates than any of his contemporary chiefs in the Highlands. A biographical sketch of him appeared in No. XXX., Vol. IV., of the *Celtic Magazine*, and it is therefore unnecessary to give any lengthened notice of him here. It may, however, be safely stated that in his person disappeared "The Last of the Chiefs," in the sense in which that designation has been applied and understood in Highland clan history; for the commercial system, and the doctrines of so-called political economy, have turned the great majority of our so-called Highland chiefs into mere land merchants. His funeral, which was a truly Highland one, was attended by nearly all the proprietors and representative men in the North, and the Highland Capital, of which Cluny was a Burgess, was represented by the Provost, Magistrates, and Town Council in their official capacity.

The second part of "The Celtic Lyre," a neat and interesting collection of Highland music and songs, compiled by "Fionn" (Mr Henry Whyte, Glasgow) has just been issued. The publishers are Messrs Maclachlan & Stewart.

OLD INVERNESS.

III.

THE erection of the present High Church, which took two years to build, was commenced in 1770. During the excavations made prior to its erection, the workmen came upon a strange find. Upon opening an old tomb, which was discovered upon the site, a female arm, with flesh and nails entire, and covered from the second joint of the fingers to the elbow with a white glove, was found among a heap of rubbish. The relic was an object of much speculation among the town's people, who assigned various reasons for its strange preservation, but the mystery was never satisfactorily cleared up.

The High Church bell-ringer, Lody Ross, was a very eccentric character, and particularly fond of his glass, when he got it for nothing. He used to rise pretty early in the morning and parade the town, on the lookout for some friend to stand treat. Several humorously inclined people used to take advantage of his failing for liquor, and on his coming out of a public-house, one of them would say to him, "Well, Lody, did you get your morning to-day." The reply was invariably, "Time enough, time enough; we got and we'll get, we got and we'll get." Upon this Lody would be treated to a glass, and, on his coming out, the same dialogue would take place with somebody else, and with the same result. In the course of two or three hours the drowsy bell-ringer would be in a maudlin condition, requiring to be helped home. He had two manifestations of a supernatural kind during his lifetime. The first occurred one night when going to ring the ten o'clock bell. On entering the steeple of the High Church he distinctly heard a voice, accompanied by music, singing the 19th verse of the 118th Psalm:—

"O set ye open unto me
The gates of righteousness;
Then will I enter into them,
And I the Lord will bless."

Finding the church to be empty, and being aware that the minister, the Rev. Mr Mackenzie, was unwell, Lody quickly repaired to that gentleman's house in Bridge Street, when he found that he was just on the point of death.

The next occurrence of this kind had a serious effect upon the bell-ringer himself. On a dark winter morning, when performing his customary duty in the steeple, some practical jokers concealed themselves behind a tombstone, and on his coming out, one of them said in a solemn sepulchral voice, "Lody Ross, that rings the bell, prepare for death!" These words put him in the greatest terror, and he took to his heels at once. Rushing into his house, he jumped into bed, and covered his head with the clothes, firmly believing that the ghost was pursuing him; and the unfeeling joke had such an effect upon his mind that he died soon after, although assured by his friends of its harmless intention.

Allusion has already been made to the belief in witchcraft in Inverness. A few years prior to 1745, two sisters, upon whom the suspicion of dabbling in the black art had fallen, were tortured and burnt to death on Barn Hill. These poor women, one of whom was known as the "Creibh Mhor," lived in a bothy at Millburn. One day, it is said, some children who were playing by the side of the burn noticed a little clay figure, stuck all over with pins, among the pebbles in the bed of the stream. The children took the figure out of the water, and one of them, a grandchild of the "Creibh Mhor," remarked that she had often seen her granny make such things. This remark, and the circumstance of the effigy being found, got abroad, and were thought sufficient grounds for the apprehension of the "Creibh Mhor" on a charge of witchcraft. The application of torture failed to extract any confession from the unfortunate woman, but her sister was not of so strong a mould, and, to get relief from her torments, the latter declared that both she and the "Creibh Mhor" were guilty of what was charged against them, and that the figure was meant to represent Cuthbert of Castle Hill. The two women were at once sentenced to death, and a stake erected upon Barn Hill. The "Creibh Mhor" was the first to suffer, her sister being compelled to witness the appalling spectacle before being burnt herself. The last words of "Creibh Mhor's" sister were, "Well, well; if I thought it would have come to this, there would have been many who wore scarlet cloaks here to-day! All I now say is, that a Cuthbert never will comb a grey hair at Drakies, and as for you, Bailie David, all I can say is, that you will never sell another article from your

shop." If we believe tradition, these prophecies were literally fulfilled.

In 1763, there was but one baker in the town, and he was sent to Edinburgh at the public expense to improve in his trade. A white and coloured thread factory was established in Inverness in 1783, which at one time gave employment to a thousand men, women, and children ; but it was discontinued in 1813, and the buildings, in Albert Place, converted into dwelling-houses. There was also a hemp factory, at Cromwell's Fort, which employed a thousand workers. The first chaise kept for hire in the town made its appearance about 1760, being the property of Mr Duncan Robertson, farmer, Beauly. His stable was in an old barn behind the West Church, called *Sabhal Daraich*, or the oak barn, which was said to have been erected by the fairies of Tomnahurich in one night.

In 1779, at the time of the Circuit Court, the Judge, Lord Gardenstone, lodged in a house which stood upon the site of the present Northern Meeting Rooms. During the night the house took fire, and the Judge was in imminent peril, when the cook burst into his chamber, rolled the majesty of the law in the bed-clothes, and bore him safely into the street, at the risk of her own life, for which she was afterwards pensioned for life. All his Lordship's clothes were destroyed, and as the fire happened on a Saturday night, a tailor had to be employed all Sunday to make new ones.

The old Tolbooth in Bridge Street was demolished about 1791. It consisted only of two small cells for criminals, and one miserable room for civil debtors, none of these apartments being over thirteen feet square. At times as many as thirty prisoners were confined in these cells at once. In Burt's time most of the prisoners confined in the building managed to escape, not so much, he thinks, from the weakness of the prison, as by the connivance of the keepers and the influence of clanship. The following is from an account of the escape of Roderick Mackay, who was imprisoned in the Old Tolbooth many years ago for smuggling, given by the Editor of the *Celtic Magazine*, in the second of his Canadian articles, which appeared in Volume v. of this periodical :—" His free-born spirit naturally chafed under such indignities and restraints, especially in such a good-cause as

the hero considered himself engaged in, protecting his own property, and he at once set about concocting means of exit. He soon ingratiated himself with his gaoler, and one day managed to send him out for a supply of ale and whisky, such things being freely admitted into such places in the good old days—and the gaoler could take his glass, too, from all accounts. The latter returning with the ale in one hand and the whisky in the other, Rory discovered his opportunity, slipped out smartly behind him, closing the door after him, locking it outside, at the same time carrying off the key, which is still preserved by his descendants in Pictou," to which place he escaped. The prison appears to have been in a most filthy condition, for it is recorded that in 1709 the Town-Clerk "paid an officer 4s. 6d. Scots to buy a cart of peats to be burnt in the Tolbooth to remove the bad scent," and in 1737 the Magistrates ordered the purchase of "an iron spade to be given to the hangman for cleansing the Tolbooth."

The Royal Academy was opened in 1792, and in the same year the present Gaelic Church was built. The old one was built in 1649, and after the battle of Culloden was converted into an hospital and prison for the followers of Prince Charles. The Gaelic Church congregation were strongly opposed to the introduction of the Geneva pulpit gown, and an amusing scene occurred one Sunday when the minister, Mr Watson, entered the pulpit wearing one. No sooner did the congregation observe the innovation than they rushed pell-mell from their pews with one accord, shouting "Popery! Popery!" and in a wonderfully short time the astonished pastor and his precentor were the only inmates of the building. The pulpit and desk in this church are marvels of the carver's art, and are said to have been the work of a herd-boy at Culloden, and to have all been carved with one knife and put together with one pin.

In the month of March 1801, the peaceful inhabitants of Inverness were startled by a terrific explosion, which shook the town like an earthquake. The accident occurred in this way. A number of casks of gunpowder were stored in the upper flat of a building in Baron Taylor's Lane, the lower part of the house being occupied by a candle-maker's. One day, this man went out on some errand, leaving a pot of liquid tallow upon the fire

During his absence the pot boiled over, and in a few moments the room was a mass of flames. The careless manufacturer returned too late to do anything to arrest the progress of the fire, and, anticipating the consequences to the gunpowder above, he ran away as hard as he could, never halting until he reached Culloden, three miles east of the town. The flames had by this time reached the gunpowder, and a fearful explosion took place, destroying a great amount of property, killing four people on the spot, and injuring many more. The report having been heard by the fugitive candle-maker at Culloden, had the effect of making him run faster than ever. He stopped for a few hours at a small village east of Elgin, but took the road at midnight for Aberdeen, thence left the country altogether, and was never again heard of.

The palladium of Inverness is Clachnacudain, a large stone which, from time immemorial, lay in front of the Exchange. On the erection of the Forbes Fountain, two or three years ago, the stone was placed beneath it, where it now remains. Its name signifies Stone of the Tubs, from the fact that, in days gone by, the women returning from the river with their water-tubs, used to rest them upon this stone. It gradually became the centre round which the inhabitants of the town used to congregate for conversation, and they regarded it with great veneration. Young men, on leaving the town for other places, were in the habit of chipping off bits of the stone and carrying them away as mementoes. "Nonogenarian" relates that a gentleman from India once visited Inverness, and while there enquired if there was such a *place* as "Clachnacudain." To his great astonishment, a stone was pointed out to him as the place he asked about. "Is it this stone that they call Clachnacudain?" he exclaimed; "Well, it has cost me many a bottle of wine to drink to Clachnacudain, but little did I think it was only this stone that gave rise to a toast of such evident interest and endearing associations!" Many years ago a man of great strength called Jock of the Maggot, lifted Clachnacudain in his arms, and carried it from its place on the Exchange to the top of the Old Tolbooth stairs. He was unable, however, to carry it back, when another townsman, named Maclean, volunteered to do so, and was successful. In August 1837, the Magistrates caused the stone to be sunk to the level of the pavement on the Exchange. This occasioned great indignation

among a considerable section of the inhabitants, and a handbill was issued, calling upon every true "Clachnacudain Boy" to assemble on a certain day, and, unless the stone were by that time raised to its former position, to raise it themselves in defiance of the authorities, and relay it with masonic honours. The Magistrates, however, seeing that the current of popular feeling was against them, wisely gave way, and before the appointed day the "Clach" was reinstated amidst the cheers of a large crowd of enthusiastic on-lookers. A lady of Inverness, Mrs Campbell, composed a song about it, which was very popular for a time. When a native was leaving the town, he would give a farewell party to his friends, who in the small hours of the morning would all proceed to Clachnacudain and dance round it, singing this song, some of the verses of which ran as follows :—

" Around the stone we'll dance and sing,
And round the stone we'll go !
We'll see the Clachnacudain boys
Dance round it in a row.

" I am a Clachnacudain man,
And very near it born ;
I admire it as a diamond stone,
Though a pebble without form.

" Around, &c.

" If any one pollutes the stone,
Of high or low degree,
A galley slave in Africa,
We'll have him for to be.

" Around, &c.

" Here's a health to King and Queen,
And Royal Family ;
To the Magistrates of Inverness,
And to its Ministry !

" Around, &c.

The cutting of the Caledonian Canal was commenced in 1803, but owing to the immense obstacles to be overcome the work was not completed until 1822, the total cost amounting to over one million sterling. The Northern Infirmary was opened in 1803. In 1807 the first Inverness newspaper was started, under the name of the *Inverness Journal*; the *Courier* following ten years later. From the former paper of 12th April 1816, we learn that in 1812 the Magistrates were informed that a gang of thieves and coiners was on its way from Aberdeen to

Inverness, and, as a precaution, all the publicans, licensed and unlicensed, in the burgh were ordered to appear before the Magistrates. One hundred and twenty-eight presented themselves, but as all the unlicensed publicans were liable to prosecution, it is probable that many of them evaded the order. Taking the approximate number of these to be thirty-two, as the *Journal* suggests, the total number of publicans in the town would be one hundred and sixty, a number which, considering that the population at that time was only 10,757, would horrify our teetotal friends of the present day, who complain that the present number—about one-half—is far too many.

The office of public executioner in Inverness was generally held by some criminal, who accepted it on condition that he would not be punished for the offence charged against him. We lately came across a document, dated the 22nd of April 1733, and endorsed on the back—"Enactment anent Thomas Robertson to be hangman," which is a good specimen of the form of bond entered into by these functionaries on their entry to their duties. This Thomas Robertson was charged with breaking into a merchant's cellar in town and stealing a quantity of goods therefrom, but as the town was at the time in want of a hangman, the prosecutor consented to forego criminal proceedings if Robertson would accept the vacant office. The document, after narrating these particulars, proceeds :— "Therefore I hereby become bound and enacted in the Borrow Court books of Inverness that I shall, from and after the date hereof, and during all the days of my life, execute the office of executioner or hangman of the said burgh, in all the parts and branches thereof; I being entitled by the good town to the fees, dues, and emoluments of the said office used and wont ; and, in case of my withdrawing at any time from the said office or the execution of any part thereof, I hereby submit myself to the punishment due by law to the said crime of theft, which crime I hereby confess and acknowledge. In witness Qrof," etc.

On the 20th April 1812 a meeting of Town Council was held for the appointment of a hangman. The minute of that meeting stands in the Record as follows :—

"That day the Magistrates and Council nominated and appointed Donald Ross common executioner for the Burgh of In-

vernness, in place of the deceast, William Taylor, with the whole powers and privileges belonging to the said office, and that during the pleasure of the Magistrates and Council ; they agreed to augment the salary to the executioner, or wages, to sixteen pounds sterling yearly, to be paid quarterly by the Town Treasurer at the expiry of each quarter ; and, having taken a view of the perquisites and emoluments of the office of hangman or executioner, they appointed and ordained the following to be given him :—(1) A house, with bed and bedding, and other necessary utensils ; (2) That he shall be entitled to the number of thirty-six peats weekly from the tacksman of the Petty Customs ; (3) a bushel of coals out of every cargo of English coals imported to this place ; (4) a piece as large as he can carry from on shipboard out of every cargo of Scotch coals ; (5) a peck of meal out of every hundred bolls landed at the shore ; (6) one fish from every creel or basket brought to the market for sale ; (7) one penny for every sack of meal sold at the meal-house or market of the burgh. And the above wages and perquisites to be given him besides the ordinary allowance for executing the different sentences. That he shall be provided with a suit of clothes, two shirts, two pair stockings, a hat, and two pair of shoes annually."

Besides the above he was paid £5 for every execution carried out by him ; and he also levied Christmas boxes upon the inhabitants, so that he was very comfortably off.

The individual who became the recipient of all these perquisites was a native of the Aird, and had been convicted before the High Court of Justiciary for sheep-stealing, and sentenced to transportation for life.

On one occasion the then hangman, William Taylor, went to Elgin to execute a serjeant for wife murder, but on his way home he was waylaid and stoned to death by a mob, when the Magistrates of Inverness offered the situation to Donald Ross, promising to give a remission of his sentence if he would accept. He, however, declined the offer until the last day he was to spend in his native land, when he accepted, and obtained his liberation. He retained the office until 1834, when the town dispensed with his services. By that time Donald had over £700 in bank, as the fruits of his profession, but he lost nearly all through the failure of the bank, and ultimately died a pauper.

Within the last sixty years the town has greatly improved. Gas was introduced in 1826, and three years afterwards the old

water works were erected. The streets were causewayed and paved, in 1831, at a cost of over £6000. In the following year the town was visited by cholera, and the Dispensary was instituted. In 1834 cholera again appeared, and between that year and the next the County Buildings were erected on the Castle Hill. The Roman Catholic Chapel was built in 1836, and towards the end of the same year the *Inverness Herald* appeared. This paper was afterwards called the *Northern Herald*, but it stopped in 1846. The West Church was erected in 1840, and the Post-office in 1843. The jail was built in 1846, and the Cathedral in 1866. The old stone bridge was carried away by the flood of 1849, after which the present handsome structure—suspension Bridge—was erected in its place.

"Old Inverness" may now be said to have almost disappeared. Every year sees the destruction of some relic of antiquity, and ere long the few remaining links between the past and the present will have given place to modern erections. One of the most venerable buildings now in existence in the town is Dunbar's Hospital, better known as the Old Academy, which stands on the east side of Church Street, at the corner of School Lane. This building is said to have been formed out of the materials of Cromwell's Fort, and was bequeathed to the town by Provost Alexander Dunbar, in 1668. For many years prior to the opening of the Royal Academy, it was used as a Grammar School. It afterwards served for a library, female school, and other purposes. When the cholera visited Inverness it was used as an hospital for the victims of that terrible disease. The building is still in fair preservation, and cannot fail to strike the eye of the passer-by. The exterior is adorned with inscriptions and dates. The only other antiquarian remains in Inverness are the old Cross, Clachnacudain, an old gate-way in Castle Street, Queen Mary's House, and some old tombs in the High Church, Greyfriar's, and Chapel Yard burying-grounds. It is to be hoped that these historic and interesting relics of the past will be preserved for many years to come, and that no Vandal touch will disturb them in their old age.

HECTOR ROSE MACKENZIE.

O R A N
AIR EALASAID CHAIMBEUIL.
LE MARI NIÉALAIR.

A ribhinn òg is boidhche sruadh,
Mar ròs am brauch 's a mhaduinn dhriuchd,
Is t'anail chaoin mar ghaoth a Mhàigh,
A' seideadh thar nam blàithean ùr.

Gur dualach bòidhreach do dhonn-fhalt,
Na luban cas mu d' cheann a sniomh,
S do mhuineal tha cho bian-gheal hillt,
Ri eala bhàn is stàtail triall.

Do shùilean mar lainnir nan séud,
No drillse ghloin nan reultan séimh,
'An guirmead, an tlaths, 'us an aoidh
Tha iad mar aghaidh chaomh nan neamh.

Do bhilean mar shirist nan craobh,
'Am milsead, an caoinead, 's an liomh,
'S do bhiathran tha cho séimh a rhùin,
Ri osag chiùin na gaoithe 'n iar.

Mar thorman alltain bhig a ruith
'S an t-sàmhradh theth 'am beinn an fhraoch,
Tha leadan aigh do mhàrrainn ghinn,
A' sileadh binn 'o d' bhilean gaoil.

O ainnir òg nam mile buadh,
Gur binn leam 'bhi ga d' luaidh 's an dàn ;
Is osag mi a bhean do 'n fhlùr,
S bheirinn a chàbhraidheachd gu cùch.

Dh'innssinn mu uaisle na séud,
Mu ghrinneas a bëus, 'us a gniomh,
A còmhradh mar smèòrach an coill,
'S a cridhe farsuing, caoimhneil, fial.

O ribhinn òg nam mile buadh,
Ainglean ga d' chuartachadh gach ré
Ga d' chumail mar lili geal ùr,
Ri soills' fo'n driùchd 's a mhaduinn chéit

Is ged a thuiteadh neoil mu d' chéum,
Cumsa do réis mar a ghrian,
No ghealach chiùin an ciabhl na h'oidhch,
Nach cuir an aois air chall 'na triall.

Biodh beannachd nam bochd air do cheann,
Is biodh ùrnaigh na 'm fann mu d' chéum,
An subhaile na d' bhean usal àrd,
Is tu na d' bhàn-righinn ann am bëus,

MAJOR JOHN MACDONALD.

SELECTIONS FROM HIS AUTOBIOGRAPHY.

IN 1764 our hero took a seventeen years' lease of some land in Moy, and settled down, as he thought, to end his days in the peaceful occupation of a farmer. The Earl of Sutherland still continued his patronage towards him, and the county gentlemen treated him with great courtesy and respect. He thus describes his position, in a few words—

"While my noble friend lived, I was not only too happy in his favour, but found myself as easy with every gentleman of the county as if I had been their college companion, and when to my great grief I lost him, I did not feel their esteem abate in the least; but rather increase. This will appear evident from their calling me to their general meetings on different occasions, and particularly my being called to the Council of our Royal Burgh every second year, and I was included in the Commission of the Peace, and acted accordingly."

Macdonald was, however, destined to go through further adventures. The American War broke out, and in 1775 an intimation appeared from the War Office, to the effect that officers who had been reduced with their corps when peace was concluded, and who were willing to serve again in the same rank they formerly held, should send in their names at once to the Secretary of War. Macdonald pricked his ears at this notice, like an old war horse that smelled the battle from afar. He had also another reason for wishing to again take up a military life, besides his mere fondness for the profession. His son was now a strong promising lad of fifteen, who inherited his father's martial spirit; and Macdonald wished to get him into the service, although he was not able to purchase a commission for him. He says—

"I looked upon this as a decent call that merited an answer from every one in these circumstances, and without hesitation wrote that though I was then in my 56th year of age, and 36th year of service, still as stout and hearty as could be expected at such a time of life, I was as willing as ever to serve my King and country, though I could not expect to be better settled after a few years service than I was at present. From all this, I little expected to be called; but, behold! I am appointed to the 42nd or Royal Highland Regiment."

Taking his son along with him, he went to Fort-George, where a detachment of the 42nd was then stationed, under the command of Major Murray. By this officer he was sent with some recruits to join the regiment at Glasgow. Lord John Murray, who was in command, enrolled young Macdonald as a volunteer in the same company as his father. Their reception is thus described—

"I became rather a favourite with his lordship; but I had better be so with Colonel Stirling, who was to go with and command the corps; but I soon became well with Major Murray, who applied to have me in his company to take care and charge of the men and their money. My noble friend the Earl of Eglinton, being then in town, received me with his usual humanity, and spoke to Colonel Stirling in my favour; but the Colonel seemed cool, perhaps naturally judging that an old man and a boy were rather likely to be a burden than a credit to that distinguished corps. And though he did the highest justice to every individual in the regiment, I could not reckon myself a favourite with him until the reduction of Fort Washington. By that time he found the boy act the man on every occasion, and that the old man acted his part as well as any subaltern in the regiment."

The 42nd embarked at Greenock on the 12th of April 1776, and landed on Staten Island on the 4th of July, thus taking nearly three months on a voyage which is now accomplished in less than 10 days. The exploits of the gallant 42nd have been so frequently and fully told that it is unnecessary here to dwell on Macdonald's individual share of the campaign. His son, although but a boy, bore himself bravely during his first engagement, as shown by the following reference :—

"The enemy finding us thus give way, came on furiously, and I had hot work. This was the first opportunity I had of seeing my son fairly engaged, and I will be allowed to say that it gave me pleasure to see him active and cool; but with only one company there was no keeping of that ground, therefore we retreated in good order. In this engagement I had a ball through the cuff of my coat, which made a trifling contusion. We had two Captains wounded slightly, and Ensign Mackenzie mortally. In consequence of his vacancy I was advised to memorial the Commander-in-Chief, in order to push for my son."

Macdonald did not succeed at this time in getting a commission for his boy, although he took a great deal of trouble in waiting on different officers; but they all considered the lad too young to recommend. General Pigot received the father kindly

and told him not to be in too great a hurry to push his son, but by exerting himself to do his duty, and encouraging his son to do the same, gain the favour of their Colonel, and no doubt he would provide for them. Macdonald followed this good advice, and soon had the pleasure of hearing Colonel Stirling speak well of the lad. It was during the attack on Fort Washington that the following occurred:—

“Whether my son landed before or after me, it is certain that we lost each other in scrambling up the rocks, and knew nothing of each other's fate till the evening, when it will be allowed, when hot firing ceased, natural concern took place. After mounting the hill, and firing ceased, to capitulate, our party sat down under trees to rest. I soon observed to Colonel Macpherson [Cluny] that we had better look for our Regiment. He answered, as there seemed nothing to be done, we were as well there for the present. I replied, My dear Duncan, you have no son on this Island this day. Very just, says he, let us move, and we soon found the corps, when Colonel Stirling shook hands with me, and thanked me for my activity in dispersing the rebels at Morris' House, adding, Your son has been with me through all this day's danger to yourself, and trust him to me in the future.”

His age did not prevent the gallant old soldier from taking his share in the hard work of the campaign, as shown by the following extract. At this time the 42nd was at Princetown—

“Here it happened my turn to go with the baggage of the army to Brunswick. The weather was very bad, with snow, frost, and sleet alternately. The road was still worse in returning with ammunition and prisoners, and the baggage horses being very ill-shod, and as ill-fed, it was the fourth day before we got back to Princetown, though constantly on duty. Here, finding the 42nd with the bulk of the army had marched towards Trenton, I followed, and late at night found them near that place, and I had a little rest on a wisp of rotten hay. Next morning the army followed the rebels to Princetown; but proved too late to save the 17th from a severe handling from a large body of them on their way to the Blue Mountains. But Lord Cornwallis, dreading the danger of Brunswick; where so much valuable stores lay, marched with all expedition to save that place, from whence the 42nd was detached to Piscataqua, and arrived there on the evening of the 3rd January 1777; and I have given the reader all this trouble to tell him that then I finished my eighty-two miles march with only one bad night's rest.”

On another occasion he became separated from the regiment for a while, when the Colonel sent a party to look for him—

"On the 10th of May the rebels made a formidable attack on our picket in front, and took the officer and sergeant prisoners, after killing or wounding most of the men. When I came up with Major Murray's company I released them, and took a wounded officer with thirteen rebels prisoners. Our people were so enraged at their continual harassing that post, and in particular at this last attempt, that I, finding them in humour to bayonet the prisoners, took some time to put them in discreet hands, with positive orders not to hurt them. By this little delay I missed the regiment, which halted at a proper distance. I followed a firing, which I found to be a few mad fellows of ours, and a company of Light Infantry, that had joined them and followed the chase too far, and to no good purpose. When I came up with them, I used all arguments that would occur to me to make them return to the regiment, but all in vain, until they approached an encampment of the enemy where only a tent was standing, and saw them forming behind their encampment. I then told them in a very serious manner that cannon would soon appear, and hoped they would give up such folly as must endanger their liberty, if not their lives; thus I at last got the better of their impetuosity, and retired a little. At that instant my son joined me, with a sergeant and fifteen men. It seems Colonel Stirling, missing me, asked the lad where I was, the latter answering that he left me giving charge of prisoners to Corporal Paul Macpherson, and that he believed that I was forward. The Colonel ordered him to take a party and find me, and directed I should declare his displeasure to these men for venturing so far from the regiment, and, at their peril, to return immediately. In this place, gratitude leads me to say that Major Murray's company of the 42nd was the most alert, most decent, and best principled soldiers I ever had the honour to command or be connected with."

Our veteran was now stricken down with fever, and unable to follow the regiment.—

"When the army, after going by Chesapeak Bay, landed at the head of the Elk, I was in a high fever, and left on board an Hospital Ship, and relapsed often, which brought me very low. Still on coming up the Delaware I landed with the first convalescents at Wilmington. Here I found my friends of the 71st, and Major Macdonald of that corps being ordered from the convalescents into a Battalion, choose to have me Adjutant to that corps. I then commenced in that duty."

Some little time after, on reaching Philadelphia, officers and men were ordered to join their respective corps, and Macdonald had the pleasure of meeting his son, and hearing how he got on during his absence.—

"Now, my son gave me a long detail of the kindness and attention of all the officers to him in my absence, in particular that, when Colonel Stirling found I had been left behind, he called him out of the rank of privates where he always stood, telling him he was sorry he had been so long in that rank, and he would take care he should appear no more in it, ordering him at that same time to command half the company on a march or action, that is, to act as subaltern in the company till his father joined, or his being otherwise appointed. This was very flattering to a lad of seventeen, and two years service; but this was not all. After the battle of Brandy Wine, the Colonel gave him a copy of a memorial addressed to General Stowe, setting forth his own short, and my long, services, desiring him to transcribe and sign a fair copy of it, which the Colonel presented in order to procure a commission in some other regiment, as there was no vacancy in the 42nd. This was done, and a favourable answer received. Soon after, Major Murray being appointed Lieut.-Colonel to the 27th, and the General being pleased to give the commissions in succession in the 42nd, my son got the Ensigncy, date 5th October 1777. Thus one of my grand points being obtained, there remained only to realise a penny for my Lieutenancy, and retire after serving upwards of thirty-eight years, and at the age of fifty-eight."

While the Lieutenant was deliberating how he could retire with a good grace in time of war, and at the same time get the money for his commission, which was a great object to him, fortune favoured him with one of those rare opportunities which sometimes occur. It was found necessary to raise Provincial troops to assist the regular army, and just at this time the order came to raise a battalion in Maryland. There was no lack of volunteers, but there was a difficulty in getting officers, for the men of position and influence in the district who had been appointed, were as a rule quite ignorant of military duty. Lieutenant Macdonald had got acquainted with several gentlemen of position, and one of these, a Mr Chalmers, got the commission of Lieutenant-Colonel of the newly raised battalion. Not being a military man himself, he was anxious to procure those who were, for his officers, and offered our friend a Commission as his Major, if he could arrange to leave his present post. Here was the very opportunity Macdonald wished for. He immediately laid his case before Colonel Stirling, who cheerfully promised to do all in his power to assist him. How he succeeded we will leave himself to tell.—

"He (Colonel Stirling) wrote strongly in my favour, recommending me to the General as well qualified for the intended office, and meriting the indulgence of settling my present office. But instead of giving me the trouble of delivering this letter, he put it in his pocket, went to Head-Quarters, sent it in to the General, and soon followed in person, and, without doubt, confirmed what might be alleged in his letter. The General graciously owning himself no stranger to my character, matters were then and there settled, and next day, the 10th of November, Ensign John Spence was appointed Lieutenant in the 42nd Regiment, vice Lieutenant John Macdonald, who retired. That same day orders contained the following:—Lieutenant John Macdonald appointed Major to the First Battalion of the Maryland Loyalists. Mr Spence gave me bills immediately for the Lieutenancy. . . . And General Howe having complimented the Colonel on getting such a man to be his Major, I joined immediately, and the corps was soon recruited to 335 privates and 42 non-commissioned officers, the establishment being only 448 of both, and I had very flattering compliments from Generals Grey and Paterson, and several other officers of experience, for their appearance and alertness in going through their exercises and different manoeuvres. By the latter end of April, I was vain of the figure they made."

A few months, however, changed the aspect of affairs. The British troops lost ground, and as a consequence their prestige; Republicanism gained strength, until even the Provincial troops became infected with it, and deserted daily in large parties, to join their countrymen in their struggle for liberty. This state of affairs necessitated the amalgamation of three Provincial regiments into one, viz., the Maryland Loyalist, the Pennsylvania, and the Waldeck Regiments. This combined corps was ordered to Jamaica. On the voyage, it came to the ears of the Major that in case of an American vessel coming in sight, that the men were determined to mutiny and join the Americans. This caused him great anxiety. We will give his own version.—

"This made me lay at night with a loaded blunderbuss under my head, all the rest of the voyage. After being a month at Jamaica, on the 16th January 1779, we arrived in the Bay of Pensacola; but the men having the smallpox among them, were ordered to the Red Cliffs, ten miles distance from the town. Here it might be naturally supposed that all apprehensions of mutiny or desertion was at an end, as there were no enemy in arms within five hundred miles of us; but, behold! on the 14th

of March, a sergeant with sixteen men deserted in a body, with their arms, and more ammunition than their ordinary complement. At this time Colonel Chalmers got leave of absence for New York, and I being informed that a more formidable desertion was designed, took all the ammunition from the men, lodged it in a store, and ordered the Quarter-master to lay there with it, and I visited it myself at all hours of the night. Indeed, self-preservation kept me on the watch, as if once they got masters of that store to pursue their design, I could not expect that they would be very ceremonious with me."

Thus, by his prompt action, the Major prevented any further attempts at mutiny. He, however, did not feel himself at all comfortable in his new position. The men were discontented, and the officers were incapable, and spent their time in quarrelling among themselves, so that to support his authority he had to be pretty severe with them. A Court-Martial was held, and three officers, a captain, a lieutenant, and an ensign, were dismissed the service. With all this, he seems to have had the entire confidence of his superior officers, as is shown by the following extract:—

"Meantime a Spanish invasion being apprehended, the General joined the Pennsylvania and Maryland Battalions into one corps, under the command of Colonel Allan. That Colonel getting leave of absence a few weeks before the siege, the command of the battalion fell to me, and in a great measure that of the British troops too, as there was no other Field Officer of either line in the place. The only other Field Officer was the Lieutenant-Colonel of the Waldecks, but except as Field Officer of the day, he did not interfere with British or Provincial troops, and for good reasons the General never employed him or his troops out of the works."

This additional responsibility made him so anxious that for weeks he never retired to rest at night, for fear of a surprise. This naturally told on a man of his age; but could not subdue his spirit, or his determination to do his duty. He thus describes his situation at this time.—

"Thus being extremely fatigued, besides other disorders, raised a swelling on the side of my head, which was blistered in the evening of the 3rd of May. That night I had the rounds, and my head running. Next morning in course of duty I was obliged to attend General Campbell with my report. He expressed great concern at seeing me in that condition, as he

meant a sally at twelve o'clock that day, the fourth (the sixth in the newspapers is a mistake), and he did not know who else to appoint to that command. I told him to be under no apprehension but I would do my duty while I had whole bones, nor would I yield a command of that nature to any man alive, and begged he would give myself the necessary instructions, and not puzzle me afterwards with messages by aide-de-camps, which I had found on other occasions contradictory and ambiguous."

The Major succeeded so well in this attempt, that his name was mentioned with honour in the General's report.

Soon after, Articles of Capitulation were agreed upon, on very favourable terms, and the Major became, with the rest of his comrades, a prisoner of war, and was sent to New York. He now determined to leave the army and return home.—

"At this time, I had the confirmation of bad news from home. My trustee having become insolvent, my affairs mismanaged, my wife and daughter distressed, while my effects were a wreck in the hands of those who never dreamed I should appear to bring them to any account. The conclusions are obvious. At this time I considered that having passed my grand climacteric, there was no depending on a constitution, always at severe trial from my twelfth year. My last service was finished decently. In any future service I might fail of ability. I hope the judicious reader will, from what has been said, see good reason for my sacrificing my commission, to escape with the little life left to my family and friends. This was effected by landing at Portsmouth, 20th January 1782—a few days in London—then to Edinburgh by land. Engaged Drumuachter in the memorable storm in March of that year; arrived at Moy, 6th April, in tolerable health, though I was obliged to march on foot all the way from Dunkeld.

"Thus at the end of forty-three years I quitted a service to which Providence, contrary to my own inclination, directed me, after such a variety of hardships as few constitutions could bear. In balancing the general usage I met with in the army, I find it most favourable, as I had not many friends, nor remarkable talents that could recommend me to much notice. Perseverance, honesty, and sobriety I take credit for; but who can say that merit is neglected, or finds no reward in the army, when such slender parts as mine could make a Major.

"I now rest well pleased with my success in the world, and in general with my own conduct, even where my designs failed most. Remembering that they were always fair and prudent at the time; but that no human sagacity can guard against future events."

And thus we leave the gallant old warrior enjoying the repose he had so hardly earned, but we confess we should have liked to have learned something of the after career of his son, who, no doubt, if his life was spared, rose in his profession.

At the end of the manuscript, from which the foregoing selections have been taken, is the following pedigree of the writer :—

" John, son of	} All born in Sutherland.
Angus, son of	
William, son of	
Norman, son of	
Murdoch, son of	
Donald, son of	

John (who came to Sutherland from Dingwall), son of Clerk or Clerach.
 "Clerach or Clerk, Manach or Monk of the Monastery of Beauly.

" This monk (as it is handed down) of Beauly was a Macdonald, and his son being Clerk to the town of Dingwall was commonly called Clerach, from his office, by which his son John was sometimes called Mac-a-Chlerich and Mac-a-Mhannich, at which he seemed always offended, not chosing to be run out of his proper surname ; but, as is commonly the case, the more he resented it, the more the joke prevailed, and ended in his killing a youth who had perhaps followed it too far. But probably having greater interest with the then Macdonald, Earl of Ross, John thought it prudent to make his escape, and settled in Braegrudy, in the parish of Rogart. Thus I am positive that in a lineal descent no more than the above five were born there before myself. And our burying-place being in the outskirts of the church-yard show our being late comers ; whereas Murrays, Mackays, Sutherlands, and Douglases are centrical, and near the church wall. And in my early days our people went by the appellation of Sliochd a Mhannich, commonly, which offended them very much, they knowing nothing of a Monk but judging that it meant only a capon. The repetition backwards is—

" Ian Mac Inish vic Uilliam vic Hormaid vic Mhurchie vic Dhoill vic Ian vic a Chlerich vic a Mhannich."

Any information respecting the descendants of Major Macdonald, would, no doubt, prove interesting to the reader, and we shall be glad to receive such.

M. A. ROSE.

LANDLORD RESOLUTIONS AT INVERNESS.
—•—

LAST month we were not able to do more than give the resolutions passed at the meeting of Highland landed proprietors held in Inverness on the 14th of January last. Indeed the more we consider these resolutions, the more we are impressed with their worthlessness, except in so far as they may be held to be a confession that something must be done, or the days of landlordism, on its present footing, are already numbered. No sensible person, however, in the least acquainted with the ideas, past conduct, and the oblivious short-sightedness hitherto exhibited by landlords generally, and more especially Highland landlords, could expect any reasonable concessions from a meeting composed as the Inverness meeting was composed. Any one taking the trouble to look over the names of those present will see at a glance that about two-thirds of the number were Commissioners and factors, and that only a small minority of the proprietors themselves graced the meeting by their presence. Commissioners and factors must necessarily be hampered, and less likely to be influenced by the arguments of the more sensible of the landlords present in person, than would those more immediately concerned—the landlords themselves—had they been at the meeting to hear the weighty reasons urged by a few of the wiser of their own class, in favour of such concessions as would allay the present agitation for Land Law Reform. The resolutions are at least two years too late. Voluntary concessions will not do at this time of day, and the action of the landlords at Inverness will serve no good purpose, except in so far as any successful opposition on their part against compulsory enactments in the House of Commons or elsewhere, is now impossible. They have made a wonderful confession of their past transgressions, at the meeting; and though forced out of them by the hard conditions and circumstances of the times, it cannot now be recalled, and the better sort must in future lend their aid to the Government and to Parliament in passing a measure of Land Law Reform, which will compel those among themselves who bring odium on their class, and endanger their interests, to do what they will never voluntarily agree to do, or if they did, never carry it out in practice. Mr Macdonald

of Skaebost, replying to the present writer, thinking his brother Highland proprietors were as wise and far-seeing as himself, declared, at the recent Annual Dinner of the Gaelic Society of Inverness, the evening before the landlord meeting, that he was not going to disclose what the proprietors were going to do next morning, but "if he interpreted the sentiment he had heard expressed within the last few days by many influential proprietors, he ventured to prophesy that on Wednesday peace would be restored to the Highlands, and that the members of the Highland Land Law Association might henceforth turn their attention to some other occupation." How terribly disappointed he must have felt when he saw the mouse which the mountain brought forth on the following day, can only be surmised. He did not know his men. Their sentiments, when pitted against what they thought their personal interests, went to the wall.

Those who think that mere tinkering will now suffice, are living in a fool's paradise. We know that the wisest among the proprietors themselves are satisfied that if once the question of Land Law Reform for the Highlands is opened up, it must be dealt with in such a manner as will close it for a generation. We have no hesitation in saying that nothing short of the principal clauses of the Irish Land Act, with additional provisions for the compulsory re-settlement of the people on the best portions of their native land, from which they have, in the past, been so harshly removed, will have this effect. Holding this opinion, as we very firmly do, it would be a waste of space to discuss the Inverness resolutions, beyond pointing out that they present the Highland proprietors on their knees, confessing their sins, and in this way effectually discounting any possible opposition on their part to such legislative changes as will make the Highland people quite independent of the landlordism of the future.

A. M.

"NETHER-LOCHABER," LL.D.—A well-deserved honour has been conferred on the Rev. Alexander Stewart, F.S.A. Scot., Minister of Ballachulish, by his *Alma Mater*, the University of St Andrews last month, by making him an LL.D. Mr Stewart is so well known to the readers of the *Celtic Magazine* by his valued contributions, as well as by a Biographical Sketch of our distinguished and long-standing friend, which we published a few years ago, that it is quite unnecessary to say more just now than to record this well-earned and crowning honour. Our only difficulty is, whether we are to call him in future Dr "Nether-Lochaber," or Dr Stewart. It will be hard for us to give up the honoured and familiar title of "Nether-Lochaber."

THE MUNROS OF MILNTOWN.

BY ALEXANDER ROSS.

IV.

ANDREW MUNRO was Captain of the Castles of Inverness and Chanonry, and Chamberlain of the Earldom of Ross. About the year 1567, John Leslie, Bishop of Ross, who had been secretary to Queen Mary, dreading the effect of public feeling against Popery in the North, and against himself personally, made over to his cousin, John Leslie of Balquhain, his rights and titles to the Castle and Castle lands of Chanonry, to divert them of the character of Church property, and so save them to his family; but notwithstanding this grant, the "Good Regent" Murray gave the custody of the Castle to Andrew Munro of Milntown, and promised Leslie some of the lands of the Barony of Fintry, in Buchan, as an equivalent; but the Regent was assassinated before this arrangement was completed—before Andrew Munro obtained titles to the Castle and Castle lands. Yet he obtained permission from the Earl of Lennox, during his regency, and afterwards from his successor, the Earl of Mar, to take possession of the Castle.

Colin Mackenzie, XI. Chief of Kintail, and his clansmen were extremely jealous of the Munros occupying the stronghold; and being desirous to obtain possession of the Castle themselves, they purchased Leslie's right, by virtue of which they demanded delivery of the fortress. This demand Andrew Munro at once refused. Kintail in consequence raised his vassals, and being joined by a detachment of the Mackintoshes,* garrisoned the

* In the year 1573, Lachlan Mor, Laird of Mackintosh, favouring Kintail, his brother-in-law, required all the people of Strathnairn to join him against the Munros. Colin, Lord of Lorne, had, at the time, the administration of that Lordship as the jointure lands of his wife, the Countess Dowager Murray, and he wrote to Hugh Rose of Kilravock:—True Friend, after my most hearty commendation, for as much as it is reported to me that Mackintosh has charged all my tenants west of the water of Nairn to pass forward with him to Ross to enter into this troublous action with Mackenzie against the Laird of Foylis, and because I will not that any of mine enter presently this matter whose service appertains to me, I thought good to advertise you of my mind thereon, in respect ye are tenants of mine and have borne the charge of Bailliary

steeple of the Cathedral, and laid siege to Irving's Tower and the Palace. The Munros held out for three years; but one day the garrison getting short of provisions, they attempted a sortie to the Ness of Fortrose, where there was a salmon stell, the contents of which they endeavoured to secure. They were, however, immediately discovered, and quickly followed by the Mackenzies, who fell upon them in a most savage manner. Weak and starving as they were, they fought with that bravery which was always so characteristic of the Munros; but after a desperate and unequal struggle, they were overpowered by the overwhelming number of the Mackenzies, and twenty-six of their number killed, among them being their commander, John Munro. The Mackenzies had two men killed and several wounded. The defenders of the Castle immediately capitulated, and it was taken possession of by the Mackenzies.

Sir Robert Gordon says that the Munros "defended and keipt the Castle for the space of thrie yeirs, with great slaughter on either syd, vntill it was delyvered to the Clancheinzie, by the Act of pacification. And this wes the ground and begining of the feud and hartburning, which, to this day, remaynes betwein the Clanchenzie and Munrois."†

Andrew Munro, V. of Milntown, married Catherine, daughter of Thomas Urquhart, VI. of Cromarty, by whom he had three sons and nine daughters—

1. George, his successor.

2. Andrew of Kinraig, who married "ane Mrs Gray," by whom he had two sons—(1) Andrew, his successor. (2) William, who entered the army, and rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in a Regiment of Foot, under the Elector of Branden-

of Strathnarne in times past; wherefore I will desire you to make my will known to my tenants at Strathnarne within your Bailliary that none of them take upon hand to rise at this present with Mackintosh to pass to Ross, or at any time hereafter without my special command and goodwill obtained on such pains as any of them may incur therethrough, certifying them and ilk one of them, and they do in the contrary hereof, I will by all means crave the same at their hands as occasion may serve. And this it will please you to make known to them, that none of them pretend any excuse through ignorance hereof; and this for the present, not doubting but ye will do the same; I commit you to God; from Darnaway, the 28th of June 1573—*The Family of Rose of Kilravock*, p. 263.

† Earldom of Sutherland, p. 155.

burg. He married a Mrs Bruce, and acquired an estate in Germany, where he resided till his death. By Mrs Bruce he had issue, both sons and daughters, who settled in Brandenburg, and other parts of Germany, and some of their descendants were living there in 1734. Andrew succeeded his father in Kincraig. He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Robert Innes, XXIII. of Innes, and relict of George Munro, VII. of Milntown, by whom he had no issue. He left, however, two illegitimate children, a son George, born in Edinburgh, and a daughter Janet, who married a burgess of Tain. Andrew I. of Kincraig had also a natural son, John, "burgess of Eainburgh," who bought the estate of Culcraigie, in the parish of Alness.

3. John, I. of Fearn, who was twice married. His first wife was Christian Urquhart, by whom he had three sons and one daughter—(1) John, his successor. (2) Andrew. (3) George, who married Mary, sister to Major-General Scot, by whom he had one son, John, who was "cast away" at sea in 1639, in company of John Munro, younger of Obsdale, on their way to Germany, to enter the Swedish service. (4) Christian, who married Malcolm, third son of Lachlan Mackintosh, XII. of Mackintosh, with issue. John of Fearn's second wife was Isabel, fourth daughter of George Ross, XII. of Balnagown, without issue. He was succeeded by his eldest son John, who married Janet, daughter of Thomas MacCulloch of Fearn, by whom he had two sons—(1) John of Logie. (2) Andrew, who entered the army, and went with Robert Munro, Baron of Fowlis to the German wars. He was executed at Stettin for maltreating a surgeon there within his own house during the night, "contrary to his Majestie's Articles and discipline of warre." Colonel Robert Munro of Obsdale, in his "Expedition," states that there was "much solicitation" made for Robert's life by the "Duchesse of Pomereu and sundry noble Ladies, but all in vain, yet to be lamented, since divers times before he had given prooef of his valour, especially at the siege of *Frailesound* in his Majestie's service of Denmarke, where he was made lame of his left arme, who, being young, was well bred by his parents at home, and abroad in France, though it was his misfortune to have suffered an exemplary death, for such an oversight committed through sudden passion, being *Summum jus*, in respect that the party had forgiven the fault,

but the Governor, being a churlish Swede, would not remit the satisfaction due to his Majesty and justice."*

John Munro, II. of Fearn, was succeeded by his eldest son,

John, who is designated "of Logie," in a MS. history of the Munros, in the possession of Stuart C. Munro, of Teaninich. John who was a Quartermaster in the army, married Margaret, daughter of the Rev. David Ross, minister of Logie-Easter, from 1638 to 1644, and had by her, among others, a son, Andrew, who succeeded him. Andrew married Christina, daughter of Hugh Munro, II. of Culrain, by whom he had six sons—(1) George, (2) John, (3) Andrew, (4) David, (5) Robert, (6) James. George, Robert, and James entered the army, and were dead in 1734, leaving, apparently, no issue. David became a carpenter, and John learned another trade. I have not succeeded in tracing whether John, David, and Andrew left issue.

4. Janet, who was married to David Munro, II. of Culnald, with issue, one son, Andrew. After David's death she married Hector Munro, XVIII. Baron of Fowlis, to whom she bore no issue.

5. Catherine, who married George Munro, I. of Obsdale, third son of Robert Munro, XV. Baron of Fowlis, to whom she had two sons—(1) Colonel John, who succeeded his father; (2) Major-General Robert, a distinguished military officer, and author of "Munro : His Expedition."

6. Elizabeth, who married Hay of Kinardie.

7. Christian, who died unmarried.

8. Euphemme, who married Hugh Munro, IV. of Balconie, with issue, five sons and one daughter.

9. Margaret, who married Robert Gordon of Bodlan.

10. Anne, who married Hugh Ross of Priesthill.

11. Ellen, who was twice married. Her first husband was Donald Ross of Balmuchie; and her second, John Munro, minister of Tain, and Sub-Dean of Ross, third son of Hugh Munro, I. of Assynt.

12. Isabella, who was also twice married. Her first husband was James Innes of Calrossie. Her second husband, whom she married after 25th July 1614, was Walter Ross, II. of Invercarron. She bore to him, among others—(1) William, who succeeded

* Munro, His Expedition, part II., page 47.

his father, and, on the 30th of December 1661, grants a charter of Invercarron to his eldest son and heir, Walter, and to Walter's spouse, Margaret Gray, relict of George Murray of Pulrossie; (2) Janet, who, before 12th August 1664, married Kenneth MacKenzie, I. of Scatwell; (3) Christian, who is said to have married Hugh Macleod of Cambuscurry, in the parish of Edderton, ancestor of Robert B. A. Macleod, of Cadboll, Invergordon Castle.

Andrew Munro, V. of Milntown, died about 1593, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VI.—George, who in 1598 is designated "George Munro of Meikle Tarrel." In that year he became bound "to releve and skaithles keip Elizabeth Rose, the relict of unquhile (deceased) Walter Urquhart, Shiref of Cromertie, and William Gordoun of Bredland, now hir spos, William Rose of Kilrawak, tutor tistalementare to Alex. Urquhart, sone lauchfull to the said unquhile Walter, and the said Alex. self and his aires—at the hands of Donald Ros, Magnus Ferne, and Finlay Manson, cessioneris and assignais constitut be unquhile Alexander Ferne, portioner of Pitcalyeane, to the letters of reversion and redemption following thereupon made by the said unquhile Walter and the said Alexander, to the said unquhile Alexander Ferne and his assignais for redemption of the easter half davoch lands of Pitcalyeane with the pertinentis, and of all redemption and renunciation made thereupon by them to Andrew Munro, sone and air to unquhile David Munro of Culnald, and to his tutour testamentare for their entres, and that at the handis of the saidis foure assaignais and their aires: Be their presentis, subscribit with our hand at Kilrawak the twenty day of August, the yeir of God 1598, beffoir their witness, David Rose of Holme, William Ros, Walter Ros, and John Munro, notar public."*

George Munro was principal tacksman of the Chantry of Ross. On the 18th of July 1618, the Commissioners of the Bishopric of Ross provided a stipend of 620 merks for the minister of Kilmorack, payable, 465 merks, out of the parsonage or rectorial tithes, by George Munro of Tarrell, principal tacksman of the Chantry of Ross, and, 155 merks, by the tacksman of the vicarage teinds; and the lease was prorogated as compensation for the charge.

* *Kilravock Papers*, pp. 287-8, and *Priory of Beauly*, p. 251.

In 1584 James VI. confirmed a charter, granted by Alexander Horne, Canon of the Church of Ross, with consent of the Dean and Chapter, to George Munro in heritage, "the church-lands of his prebend called Killecreist, with the parsonage tithes included, lying in the Earldom of Ross and Sheriffdom of Inverness, and also the prebendary's manse with its pertinents lying as above.*

George Munro was twice married. His first wife was Mariot, daughter and heiress of John McCulloch of Meikle Tarrel. She was served heir to her father in the estate of Meikle Tarrel in 1577, together with the revenue of £2. 10s. from Easter Airds. In 1578 James VI. granted to her, and her "future spouse, George Munro, the son and heir-apparent of Andrew Munro of Newmore," the lands of Meikle Tarrel, which formerly belonged to Mariot in heritage, and which she had resigned with the consent of her curators, Robert Munro, Baron of Fowlis; James Dunbar of Tarbat; George Dunbar, of Avoch; and George Munro, Chancellor of Ross—to be held of the Crown for the service formerly due.†

By Mariot McCulloch, George Munro had four sons and one daughter—

1. George, his heir.
2. John; 3, William; 4, David, all of whom went to the German wars with Robert Munro, Baron of Fowlis, "whence they returned not, dying going there."
5. Margaret, who married David Dunbar of Dunphail, she being his second wife.

George Munro's second wife was Margaret, daughter of David Dunbar, Dean of Moray, fourth son of Sir Alexander Dunbar of Westfield, who was the fifth son of James, V. Earl of Moray. By Miss Dunbar he had two sons and four daughters—

6. Hector; 7, John, "of whom there is no account to be given of, their being soldiers, and killed in battle."
8. Janet, who married Hugh Munro of Achnagart, with issue.
9. Helen, who married John Fraser of Inchbreck, with issue.
10. Catherine, who married Alexander Baillie of Dunean, to whom she had, among others, William, VIII. of Dunean; David,

* Reg. Sec. Sig., Vol. li., folio 90.

† Reg. Sec. Sig., Vol. xlv., Folio 68.

I. of Dochfour ; and Catherine, who married one of the younger sons of Hugh Fraser of Culbokie.

II. Isabella, who married Walter Leslie of Elgin, with issue.

George Munro built the tower and belfry of the present Established Church of Kilmuir-Easter, on the top of which is an eagle, the Munros' armorial crest, and the monogram, G.M.—George Munro. It bears the date 1616, with the word "biggit." The Munros' aisle in the same church is a building of some architectural taste.

George died at Boggs on the 6th of May 1623, and was succeeded by his eldest son,

VII. George Munro, VII. of Milntown who was in 1623 served heir to his father in a fourth of the lands and town of Meikle Allan, containing two oxbangs of the extent of 13s. 4d. and a fourth of the alehouse of the extent of 3s. 4d. He was in the same year served his father's heir in the lands of Milntown, "with the mills and office of chief mair of the earldom of Ross, of the extent of 8 chalders, 4 bolls of victual; a croft named the Markland of Tullich, of the extent of one pound of wax; and the lands and town of Meikle Meddat, of the extent of 6 chalders of bear and oatmeal, and other dues, its alehouse with toft and croft, of the extent of 13s. 4d., and its other alehouse, without toft and croft, of the extent of 6s. 8d.—in the Barony of Delnie, earldom of Ross, and sheriffdom of Inverness." *

He married Margaret, daughter of Sir Robert Innes, XVI. Laird of Innes, by his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Elphinstone, Lord High Treasurer of Scotland, by whom he had one son and one daughter—

1. Andrew, his heir, and
2. Margaret, who married Captain Alexander Forester of Corstorphine, near Edinburgh, with issue.

George had also an illegitimate son, named Hugh, who married Jane, daughter of Robert Dunbar of Dunphail, and had issue.

George Munro, VII. of Milntown, died in 1630, and was succeeded by his only son,

VIII. Andrew Munro, who was the last of his family who held the estate of Milntown. He succeeded in his eleventh year. His maternal uncle, Sir John Innes, never permitted him to possess

* Retours.

the property or inhabit the Castle of Milntown, as he had, immediately after the death of Andrew's father, taken possession of the same by virtue of "an appraising and other diligences"—Sir John holding wadsets over the lands and estates of Milntown which he sold in 1656 to Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat. Andrew Munro served as a Captain under his kinsman, Sir George Munro I., of Newmore, in Ireland, in the Royal Army, during the rebellion there. He was in 1644 ordered to Scotland with his men, and took a distinguished part in the battle of Kilsyth, fought in 1645, where he fell fighting bravely at the head of his company, in the twenty-sixth year of his age. His friends and relations had great hopes of his being able to redeem the debts, contracted by his father, and his death was a severe blow to the Milntown family. He died unmarried, and without issue, when the family of Milntown, in the main line, became extinct.

Sir George Mackenzie of Tarbat, after purchasing the castle and estate of Milntown, changed the name to Tarbat, after his own title, he being a Lord of Session under the title of Lord Tarbat. He was afterwards created a Viscount. The peasantry to this day call the place "New Tarbat," and in the vernacular, *Baile-Mhuillinn Andrea*. Adjoining the site of the old castle of Milntown is a high mound, near the river, where the pipers played the bagpipes. The only remains of the old castle still extant are the door of the vault, and the high terraces near the place where it stood. In the year 1728 Viscount Tarbat—afterwards Earl of Cromarty—contracted with masons to "throw down Munro's old work," and clear the foundation, and build a new house. Some of the oldest inhabitants of the village of Milntown remember hearing their parents, who assisted in razing Milntown Castle, say that the hall was so large "that the music of fiddles at one end could not be heard at the other." The castle is said to have been the most elegant and highly finished house in the north, and adorned with turrets. It stood near the site of the present mansion. In the grounds near the old building were many large trees. One large beech was called "Queen Mary's tree," and was supposed to have been planted by that queen during her stay at Beauly Priory. It was more than 100 feet high, and required a whole week to cut it down. No force was able to remove it, and it was in consequence buried where it lay.

DEATH OF MR JOHN A. CAMERON, WAR CORRESPONDENT.

IT is with great regret that we record the early and untimely death of a typical and distinguished Highlander. Mr John A. Cameron, for several years well known to the world as the war correspondent of the *Standard* newspaper, had in his veins the best blood of the Clan Cameron. He was educated in Inverness, but although born a soldier, he was born after the time when the Highlands were the nursery of soldiers and the capabilities of race and individuals which formed a man to be a leader commanded a commission. He commenced his active life in the service of the Caledonian Bank, and had to be content to gratify those stirrings in his blood which impelled him to a military career by serving in the first Company of Inverness-shire Highland Rifle Volunteers. He afterwards went to India and engaged in mercantile pursuits, and was in business in Central India when the Afghan War broke out in 1878. The young Highlander smelt the battle from afar; Evan's, Donald's fame rang in the young clansman's ears, and, like David of old, if he could not join in the battle he would go and see it. He obtained an appointment as correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette*, and so rapidly did he establish a reputation that in the following year he was employed by the *Standard*, on the staff of which paper he continued till his death. From this time Mr Cameron may be said to have lived his life in camp, and probably no soldier now alive has seen so much fighting as it fell to his lot to witness. From Afghanistan he went to South Africa, and was present, and taken prisoner, at the fatal fight on Majuba Hill. He saw the bombardment of Alexandria and the battle of Tel-el-Kebir. He witnessed the operations of the French in Madagascar. He was with the French in the swamps of Tonquin; and finally he accompanied the expedition of Sir Garnet Wolseley to the Soudan, and met his death in that fatal post where General Stewart halted his column for a temporary rest, and where we venture to say the courage and the discipline of soldiers were tried as they never were tried before. Throughout his career Mr

Cameron displayed all the best qualities of a Highlander. What pluck, daring, and endurance could accomplish he did. What his eye saw he was apt to describe in glowing language, which created the scene again for his readers. And withal he was so modest and unassuming that his own personality was never obtruded. He did feats of which possessors of the Victoria Cross might be proud, but these were never heard of from his own lips or his own pen. In these columns it would be unpardonable that we should forget to tell that to the last Mr Cameron was a true Highlander, and in deep sympathy with the land of his birth and its people. In 1882 he was for some months in this neighbourhood, and in the Isle of Skye the week after the Battle of the Braes, where he devoted his time to an examination of the condition of the crofters, which was then engaging public attention, and was the author of several valuable papers on the subject, full of true sympathy with the people, of whom he was one, and with the race from which he sprung.

Sic transit. Stricken in hot fight, in the full vigour of youth, the gallant son of the mountain now sleeps his last sleep in the desert sands of Africa. To us it is left but to drop a sympathetic tear, to record this all too imperfect tribute to his memory, and to hope that his life of duty, gallantly done, will not be lost.

OUR GAELIC BIBLE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CELTIC MAGAZINE.

SIR,—In casually perusing the *Celtic Magazine* for April 1879, in an article under the above heading, by the Rev. Donald Masson, M.A., M.D., at page 216, it is stated that in 1758, the "Mother's Catechism" was translated into Gaelic. On looking over the Gaelic New Testament, published by John Orr, bookseller, Glasgow, in 1754, I find the following advertisement in which the "Mother's Catechism" is mentioned :—

"Leabhair ghaoithealach, cloadh-bhualite, agus r' an reic le Ioin Orr, Leabhair reiceadoir ann Glas-gho. Eadhon, An tiomna nuadh ; Leabhair nan Saimh ; Gnàth-fhocail Sholaimh ; *Leabhar ceisid na Mathar*, Leabhar aithearr nan Ceisid ; Laoiadh Mhic Ealaир ; Laoiadh eile, araoan am beurla san Gaoitheilg. Agus cuid do ranntaibh, agus orain ; agus paitteas do leabhairbh beurla air Saor-chunnradh.

"Toir Fainear, gu bheill rùn aige an Sein-tiomna gu huiilidh a chlodh-bhualadh ma chuireas daoine a steach air a shon gun mhoill. Agus leabhar Searmoin, dan goirear Gairm an De mhoir don tsluagh neimh iompoichte," &c.

From the above it would appear that "Baxter's Call" in Gaelic, which Dr Masson states was printed in 1748, was not then proceeded with, although the Irish gentleman mentioned gave in that year a donation for the translation and printing of it.—Yours, &c.,

K. CORBETT.

Beauly, 27th January 1885.

THE ESTATE AND PEOPLE OF KILMUIR.

BY THE REV. JAMES M. DAVIDSON.

WHEN Donald Gorm, Lord of the Isles, was lying on his death-bed in Edinburgh, local tradition says that his spirit visited the Castle of Duntulm, then the residence of the Lords of the Isles and left the following message for his son and heir, Donald Gorm Og :—

“ Tell Donald Gorm Og to stand up for the *right* against *might*, to be generous to the multitude, to have a charitable hand stretched out to the poor.”

Never did a Highland chieftain give more apposite advice to his heir than that contained in Donald Gorm’s message to his son, and yet, if there be truth in the cry at the present day of the people who inhabit the country surrounding the old crumbling Castle of Duntulm, does not that cry proclaim to the world that Donald Gorm’s heirs have not always attended to their old chief’s dying message—that *might* has trampled over *right*—that the multitude have been neglected, and that the poor have often cried in vain.

Be this as it may, there is no lack of those who allege “ that a sense of intolerable wrong ” on the part of the crofters has given rise to the wail that has brought during the last month such a trampling throng of military, police, and newspaper men to our drowsy island.

That the Highland agitation, as yet in its infancy, should first attract attention in Skye and the other north-west islands need not surprise any one. The origin of the present state of matters dates as far back as the abolition of the feudal authority in 1745. During all this time society in Skye, may be said to have been divided into two distinct classes. On the one hand we have the landlords, tacksmen—the latter themselves often men of gentle blood—and the clergy. On the other the great mass of crofters and cottars comprising nearly nine-tenths of the entire population. Note that there is no middle class in Skye—that the gulf between the Patrician and the Plebeian has all along been a dangerously wide one.

About 70 years ago the Highland chief fancied that if the clansmen were away, and sheep in their place, that his old estate would become a sort of El-Dorado. The clansmen in a great measure had to go away. In Australia, New Zealand, and all through the New World, many of the descendants of the vanished clansmen live and prosper. Not so the old race of evicting landlords. Their story for the most part is a sad one. All over the Highlands the great bulk of them have disappeared. The stranger owns their old home.

The Highland chieftain began by evicting the clansmen, and the probability is that he will end by evicting himself.

With reference to Skye, the landlords, as a rule, were not wealthy, and gradually became absentees. The great object with their factor was to get as much money as possible for the absent lairds. The large farms which at the time were a paying concern, grew larger, and in proportion the crofter area diminished. In such circumstances it is not surprising that the crofters began to look upon landlord, factor, and tacksmen, as a combination that might one day root them out altogether. This feeling of distrust and sense of wrong on the part of one class towards another had long been growing; it needed but a spark to set the heather on fire. That spark was applied when, four years ago, the tenants of the township of Valtos, refused any longer to pay what they considered an exorbitant rent. Since then the conflagration has made the round of the island—Braes, Glendale, and again Kilmuir following in succession.

There is no part of Great Britain that has engaged public attention more keenly, nor called forth public sympathy more widely, for the last two months, than Skye. Startling rumours found their way to the newspapers, which made people believe that the usual peaceable subjects were in actual rebellion, setting law and order at defiance. To one living among them, acquainted with their simple and inoffensive mode of life, it appeared strange that all these exaggerated statements were so readily believed by the authorities. That there was, and is, discontent among them, cannot be denied. Were they not more than ordinarily patient and peaceful this discontent would long ere now have assumed larger proportions. They are quiet and inobtrusive in their habits, respectful to superiors, notwithstanding the hard

treatment they have from time to time received at their hands. As a class they are honest, sober, and industrious, much devoted to their native soil, willing, as far as they can, to give every man his due. When they fail in this, no one feels it more than they do, and they would deny themselves some of the necessities of life in order to attain it. Instances of this came under my observation.

Some newspaper correspondents have remarked that the people on the Kilmuir estate appeared to be worse fed and clad than those seen anywhere else in Skye. They are as sober and industrious as any of the others : why, then, are they unable to feed and clothe themselves, as well as those on the other estates?

The first thing that struck my attention when I came to reside in this parish, three years ago, was the moral cowardice of the people. It was of such a character that it surprised me. Why should a people, in the main upright in their character, be living in such constant dread of their superiors ? Why could they not put their foot on their native heath without the fear of man ? It is a well-known fact that threats were indulged in, which led to a continual fear of having these threats put into execution. Many instances of high-handed measures were so fresh on their memories, that a fear of their repetition had a demoralising effect. To the Skye crofter, so passionately fond of his native soil, the reign of eviction was the reign of terror. This is the good old way to which the crofters were advised to return. It need not surprise any one that the advice was sullenly answered in the negative, notwithstanding the high authority from which it came. Some of their best qualities were, in a measure, crushed by such a system of government. Any one who showed an independent spirit, or was known to take an interest in public matters, was marked, and if he persevered in such conduct he might have had to leave the district.

Since the visit of the Royal Commissioners the people of this parish have changed considerably. On that occasion some of the delegates were afraid to enter minutely into their grievances for fear of displeasing the estate officials. Had this not been so, much of the evidence would have been stronger than it is. Once their grievances were partly disclosed they gained a fair amount of sympathy from the public. Newspapers were widely read, and the land question was debated in every household.

The meetings of the Highland Land Law Reform Association had all the effect of a debating or mutual improvement society. The crofters began to think for themselves, and the periodical meetings of the Association afforded them an opportunity of expressing their views. This some of them do with creditable fluency. It may be noted that not a few came to these gatherings with their speeches written. Such meetings were a novelty, very popular, and always well attended.

If Skye landlords had taken a greater interest in the education of the people during the last twenty years, had trusted less to officials, and shown a more kindly feeling towards the welfare of their tenants, the present police and military invasion would not have been required.

One cannot help admiring one trait in the character of the people; it goes far to palliate other failings. Young men and young women serving in the South send home their wages to pay a rack rent that their parents may retain their holdings. Despite the many hardships the people have to endure, the family feeling is tender and in every way exemplary.

The treatment of the poor was generally harsh. Several appeals had recently to be made to the Board of Supervision; these were on the whole successful. Till lately the management of parochial affairs was almost entirely in the hands of the estate officials, but in September last the crofters woke up, and elected three of their number to represent them on that Board. Would they have done it ten years ago?

Reference will be made to more recent events in Skye in a future number.

FROM ILLINOIS TO THE PACIFIC COAST: REMINISCENCES BY AN AMERICAN HIGHLANDER.

WE extract the following from a letter recently received from Mr William Fraser, Elgin, Illinois, U.S.A., being reminiscences of a recent journey by him across the Prairie to the Pacific Coast. They will prove most interesting to many of our readers. Mr Fraser is a native of the county of Inverness, where many of his relations still reside:—

"I met a number of Frasers and Mackenzies in the various locations that I visited on the Pacific Coast. I first landed in California, where I have a brother who

has been a resident of that country for the last 30 years. His home is at Woodland, 20 miles north of Sacramento. I there met a farmer of the name of Mackenzie, from Pictou, but not a Gaelic man. One of the principal physicians in the place is a Dr Ross, from Lower Canada. His father came from Ross. In San Francisco I met another Mackenzie, a broker from Beauly, who is doing a good business. His office being opposite the hotel where I lodged, I went in and asked him in Gaelic, 'An e thusa ogha Alastair Mhic Ian, a bha a'n Milifach.' 'Is mi mata; be mo mhathair is do shean-mhathair cloinn an da pheathar.' Another Mackenzie, who is doing a good work there is the Rev. Robert, who was once pastor of our church in Elgin. He is a native of Cromarty. He resigned his charge in San Francisco, and accepted a call in Pittsburgh, on account of his wife's health, where he received a salary of 5000 dollars a year. He was very much respected in San Francisco, not only in his own congregation, but by a large class of people outside. Hugh Fraser, who also lives there, was visiting his parents in Canada, so I did not see him. His father was a teacher in Tigh-an-uilt when I left the country. From San Francisco I took steamer to Portland, where I met several Scotsmen, both Lowland and Highland. One of the principal wholesale merchants, Mr Donald Macleay, is from Ceann-Lochluichart. After I left the place I heard that his partner, Mr Corbett, was from Beauly. I met another Mackenzie there, who is keeping a Grocery. He is either from Gairloch or Lochcarron. As I was passing by, on one of the principal streets, I observed a sign, 'Dr E. S. Fraser.' I went in and asked the Doctor if he was Scotch; he said 'No,' but that his father was, and came from Inverness. I then asked where was he born; he said in Michigan. I then asked, Was not your father's name Peter? He replied, 'Yes.' And you had an uncle Alexander, once a lawyer in Detroit. He said 'Yes.' I then informed him of a number of relations in Scotland that he never heard of. His grandfather, Alastair Mor, occupied once the farm of Drumriach on the Reelick side, and his father emigrated to America as far back as I can remember. When coming to the western country forty years ago, I called on his uncle, the lawyer, at Detroit. He was married to a Frenchwoman, and was reputed to be very wealthy. The Doctor stated that he left 200,000 dollars at his death; his family all predeceased him. The lawyer's sister was married to Mr Davidson, who was miller at Culcabcok when I left Scotland, 50 years ago. Dr Fraser informed me that his uncle left his property to two nieces in Inverness, and I believe he said they were the miller's daughters. I visited a nephew in Salem, 50 miles south of Portland, who is secretary to the State Board of Education in the Land Department of Oregon. He owns a mill there, which he rented to one Donald Macdonald, a native of Strathpeffer, whose wife is from Brahan. I passed a very pleasant evening with them, with Gaelic *gu leor*. I was the first who told them of Dr Kennedy's lamented death. I met another Canadian Scotsman there, John A. Macdonald, a marble-cutter. He was obliged to know Gaelic, as his mother was from the Lewis and never knew English.

I stayed some weeks with friends in Eugene City, 120 miles south of Portland. While there, I was informed that there was a man living in the place who conducted family worship in Gaelic. I was soon introduced to him, and carried on a conversation in my native tongue for a couple of hours, more than I had done for twenty years before. His name is Simpson, from Inveraray; and he has been out but two years. His son is a Methodist preacher in the place, and is a thorough English scholar. There was another Highlander living there at the time, compiling a history of Lane County—J. Munro Fraser, of the Munros of Poyntzfield. His uncle, Andrew Fraser, was once Sheriff at Fort-William. He informed me that he was 15 years in China, and was interpreter to General Gordon. I went up to Victoria, and met another countryman there, Dr William Fraser Tolmie, a native of Ardersier, who was fifty years in the country, in the employment of the Hudson's Bay Company. In my wanderings on my way home I visited Salt Lake City, and spent a day or two among the Latter Day Saints. Not being acquainted with any one, I strolled through the streets, and asked the first man I met if there were any Scotsmen among the Mormons. He replied that he was a Scotsman and a Mormon; that his name was Grant; that he was born at Carr-Bridge, and received his education in Inverness. I met with several others, both Lowland and Highland, who embraced that strange system. They were all ready to argue the question with me, and nail it with Scripture. I denounced their system, and expressed my astonishment that any person brought up in Presbyterian Scotland, and taught the Chief End of Man, would ever turn a Mormon.

THE CANADIAN HIGHLANDER.
BY CHARLES MACKAY, LL.D.

Thanks to my sires, I'm Highland born,
 And trod the moorland and the heather,
 Since childhood and this soul of mine
 First came into the world together !
 I've "paidle'd" barefoot in the burn,
 Roamed on the braes to pu' the gowan,
 Or climb the granite cliffs to pluck
 The scarlet berries off the rowan.
 And when the winds blew loud and shrill
 I've scaled the heavenward summits hoary,
 Of grey Ben-Nevis or his peers
 In all their solitary glory,—
 And with the enraptured eyes of youth
 Have seen half Scotland spread before me,
 And proudly thought with flashing eyes
 How noble was the land that bore me.
 Alas ! that land denied me bread,
 Land of my sires in bygone ages,
 Land of the Wallace and the Bruce,
 And countless heroes, bards, and sages.
 It had no place for me and mine,
 No elbow-room to stand alive in,
 Nor rood of kindly mother earth
 For honest industry to thrive in.
 'Twas parcell'd out in wide domains,
 By cruel law's resistless fiat,
 So that the sacred herds of deer
 Might roam the wilderness in quiet,
 Untroubled by the foot of man
 On mountain side, or sheltering corrie,
 Lest sport should fail, and selfish wealth
 Be disappointed of its quarry.
 The lords of acres deemed the clans
 Were aliens at the best, or foemen,
 And that the grouse, the sheep, the beeves
 Were worthier animals than yeomen ;
 And held that men might live or die
 Where'er their fate or fancy led them,
 Except among the Highland hills
 Where noble mothers bore and bred them.
 In agony of silent tears,
 The partner of my soul beside me,
 I crossed the seas to find a home
 That Scotland cruelly denied me,

THE CELTIC MAGAZINE.

And found it on Canadian soil,
 Where man is man in Life's brave battle,
 And not, as in my native glens,
 Of less importance than the cattle.
 And love with steadfast faith in God,
 Strong with the strength I gained in sorrow,
 I've looked the future in the face,
 Nor feared the hardships of the morrow :
 Assured that if I strove aright
 Good end would follow brave beginning,
 And that the bread, if not the gold,
 Would never fail me in the winning.
 And every day as years roll on
 And touch my brow with age's finger,
 I learn to cherish more and more
 The land where love delights to linger.
 In thought by day, and dreams by night,
 Fond memory recalls, and blesses
 Its heathery braes, its mountain peaks,
 Its straths and glens and wildernesses.
 And Hope revives at memory's touch,
 That Scotland, crushed and landlord-ridden,
 May yet find room for all her sons,
 Nor treat the humblest as unbidden,—
 Room for the brave, the staunch, the true,
 As in the days of olden story,
 When men outvalued grouse and deer,
 And lived their lives ;—their country's glory.

New York Scotsman of January 10th 1885.

A SCOTTISH-AMERICAN BILL OF FARE.—We extract the following unique and intensely Scottish bill of fare from the *San Francisco Chronicle*, of January 1st. The viands enumerated there were discussed, with an accompanying programme of songs, on the preceding evening by the San Francisco Scottish Thistle Club :—

Soups—Cock-a-leekie. Kail Broth. Hotch Potch. Tattie Soup.

Shell Fish—Buckies. Mussels. Cockles. Partans.

Fish—Finnan Haddies. Caller Haddies. Speldrins. Saut Herrin. Kippered Salmon. Glasco' Magistrates. Tak'a dram.

Boiled—Hoch o' Stirk. Doup o' Mutton. Peet Reekit Braxie Ham. A wee Grumphie an' Neeps.

Roasts—Bubbly Jock stuffed wi' Ingins. Jigots. Paitricks. Pheasants wi' Blueberry Sauce. Another Dram to Sloken.

Cold Dishes—Skakie Tremmie. Pee-weep Pies. Whaup and Doo Tarts.

Entrees—Royal Scotch Haggis—"Great Chieftain o' the Puddin' Race." Thairns, Pies and Porter. Parrich and Milk. Pease Brose and Butter. Howtowdies wi' Drappit Eggs. Crowdies. Sowans. Sour-dook. Tatties an' Dip. Singet Sheep's Head.

Vegetables—Curly Kail. Bil'd Ingins. Neeps. Leeks. Brislet Tatties and Carrots. Chappit Tatties. Shives.

Dessert—Rolly-Polly. Grozet Tarts. Shorties and Sweeties. Cookies. Gingerbread. Bawbee Baps. Parlies. Aitmeal Bannocks. Tattie Bannocks. Currant Loaf. Arnots. Sweeties. Athol Brose. Usquehab (Royal Blend). Tippeny Yill. Treacle Peerie. A Drap o' Screech. Mulled Porter. Kebbuck.

CROFT V. LARGE FARM RENTS IN
SUTHERLANDSHIRE.

MR JOHN MACKAY, C.E., Hereford, criticising a statement recently published by Sir Arnold Kemball, Commissioner for the Duke of Sutherland, writes, under date of 2nd February :—

"I see there is a great disagreement between contending parties as to the relative rents paid by large farmers and crofters for the areas of land occupied by each of them. Sir Arnold maintains, by published tables, that the large farmers pay very much more for their areas of arable and hill pasture than the crofters do for their areas. The crofters assert that the very contrary is the fact. From the sequel it will appear that the crofters are perfectly correct. We all know that it is not very agreeable to landlords or to estate agents to admit that crofters can have attained to so much intelligence, and become possessed of so much information, as to dispute the accuracy of carefully prepared statements and tabulated returns. We know, too, that statements can be so prepared that, while not inaccurate in themselves, they can be so framed as to mislead the general public in a way that they can make nothing of them, nor derive any clear insight from them of the matter in dispute. Nevertheless, we have in them facts which, when analysed and collated with other information at hand, may give a very approximate, if not a strictly accurate, view of the point in question. This controversy regarding comparative rents per acre of holdings by large farmers and crofters in Sutherland, first turned up at the sitting of the Royal Commission in the parish of Farr, at which it was asserted, and with truth, that the crofters for their area paid rents equal to 20d. an acre for very inferior land, arable and hill pasture, while the sheep farmers only paid 8d. an acre for theirs, and were remissions of rent taken into consideration, remissions enforced and granted, the difference would be greater still. At a subsequent sitting in Helmsdale for the parishes of Kildonan and Loth, a delegate maintained, and proved beyond dispute, that the crofters there paid 3s. 3d. an acre for their areas, while the large farmers for their areas paid only 7d. an acre. In the sitting in Golspie for the parishes of Clyne, Golspie, Rogart, and Lairg, it was asserted on behalf of the Rogart crofters that they paid 1s. 10*½*d. an acre, while the large farmers in that parish only paid 10d. an acre of area. The whole of the crofters at these three sittings further contended that they paid these large differences upon lands they themselves reclaimed from waste, without any aid, and their rents periodically raised, while those of the large farmers were diminished. Lord Napier, as he well might, was much surprised, doubted the statements made, and asked the estate officials for contradiction. The only contradiction vouchsafed was that crofters were not charged for hill pasture—an assertion amply refuted afterwards at the last sitting of the Commission in Edinburgh.

"To set this controversy in a clearer light is the object of my addressing you; and I solicit you to give the following few facts and figures a space in your valuable columns.

"The only materials I have at hand, and upon which I rely, are the Royal Commission Report and Evidence, Stafford House Returns appended to the Report, County Valuation Roll for 1883, and the large Ordnance Survey of the county. The

latter gives the total area of the parish of Rogart in round figures to be 67,000 acres. The Stafford House returns, page 288, appendix A to the Report, give the area, arable, improvable, and hill pasture, in the occupation of the crofters as 9892 acres, or say, 10,000 acres, which leaves 57,000 acres as the area occupied by the large farmers and a small park kept in hand by the estate, and let separately for grazing at so much a-head to the small tenantry in addition to their ordinary rents. By the same returns the rent paid by the small tenants or crofters for these 10,000 acres is £1189. 8s. 6d.—equal to 2s. 4d. an acre. By the County Valuation Roll for 1883, we find the rent paid by the large farmers for the 57,000 as above to be £2370, or only 10d. an acre nearly; and if it is further borne in mind that the large farmers exacted, and really obtained, a large remission of their rents, while the crofters were refused if they did demand a reduction, the comparative difference will be still greater.

"It appears to me that these figures are incontestable. They go to prove that the Rogart crofters have had substantial facts before them, and that their statements are highly deserving of credit when analysed and placed in contradistinction to those of estate officials and estate returns. Such analyses as these are highly valuable to the general public, to form an opinion upon the merits of this controversy, for hitherto the general use has been that crofters paid much less and sheep farmers much more for their aggregate areas. Hence that crofters were ever a burden upon estates, were a non-improving class of tenantry, that landlords would have been better—very much better—without them, that the State could obtain soldiers from town and city, and that by the extirpation of a noble peasantry, landlords and large farmers would be in Arcadia, and the State could take care of itself."

"THE CROFTERS' GATHERING."—We have been favoured with a copy of a very effective cartoon bearing the above title, by Mr W. L. Bogle, who did such good artistic work for the *Graphic* and the *Pictorial World* on the occasion of the first military and police expedition to the Isle of Skye. The dominant idea represented in Mr Bogle's cartoon is true to fact, namely, that the movement among the crofters of the Highlands is one in which simple "Justice" and not "Socialism" is the aim. In the foreground a strong-lunged Celt is blowing a horn, and the main subject represents the result in the shape of an enthusiastic gathering of crofters, who are seen climbing a hill on the top of which two stalwart fellows, one of them wearing a broad Tam o' Shanter bonnet, are striving to raise and maintain a standard on which is conspicuously displayed the single word "Justice." The adverse winds are almost more than a match for the two supporters of the flag, who seem most determined that it shall not go down if they can prevent it. In the right foreground is seen approaching a man, evidently meant for Mr Henry George, bearing aslant his shoulder the star-spangled American banner, on which is inscribed the word "Socialism." His progress, however, is not to be an easy or a popular one, for he is stoutly confronted by an aged drover-looking Highlander, grasping a stout cudgel in rather a threatening manner. In his expression of countenance may be read anything but a warm welcome to the "Apostle" of Land Nationalisation. The conception and execution of the cartoon are really excellent, and reflect the highest credit on Mr Bogle, in whom we are glad to recognise a young and rising Highland artist—one quite able to take up the mantle of the accomplished Ralston. Accompanying the cartoon is a very good parody of "The Macgregor's Gathering," with the refrain changed into—

"The crofters, despite them,
Shall flourish for ever."

DEATH OF JOHN F. CAMPBELL OF ISLAY.

We regret to record the death of Mr J. F. Campbell of Islay, a gentleman well known throughout the Highlands as a distinguished Celtic scholar. He died at Cannes, where he was spending the winter, on Tuesday, the 17th February, at the age of sixty-three. The deceased was the only son of the late Mr Walter F. Campbell of Islay, M.P., by his first wife, Lady Ellinor Charteris, eldest daughter of the seventh Earl of Wemyss. He was born in Edinburgh on the 29th of December 1821, and educated at Eton and Edinburgh, and in 1851 was called to the bar of the Inner Temple, but never practised. In 1854 he was appointed private secretary to the Duke of Argyll when Lord Privy Seal. In the following year he was appointed assistant secretary to the General Board of Health, and subsequently held, in 1856, the secretaryship of the Mines Commission, and, in 1859, that of the Commission on Lighthouses. Possessed of literary tastes, and deeply interested in the manners and customs of the Highlands, and the legendary lore of the people, Mr Campbell devoted much attention to the study of Celtic folk-lore. He took an active part in the Ossianic controversy, and between 1860 and 1862 published his *Popular Tales of the Highlands*, in four volumes. In 1872 he published the first volume of a work entitled "*Leabhar Na Feinne: Heroic Gaelic Ballads*." He was also the author of two volumes entitled "*Frost and Fire: Footmarks and Chips*," in which scientific observations and sketches of travel were pleasantly recorded. Several other works also came from his pen, including a series of letters describing a trip round the world. In 1861 he was appointed a Gentleman Usher of the Privy Chamber, and in 1874 her Majesty appointed him one of the Grooms-in-Waiting, which office he resigned in 1880. Besides many earlier European and much Alpine climbing, Mr Campbell travelled, for purposes of research and observation, in 1857 in Norway, in 1861 in Iceland, in 1864 in America, in 1855 in Northern Scandinavia. In 1873-4 he made a journey by Norway to Archangel, and thence through Russia to the Caucasus, returning by Constantinople and the south of Europe. He made a voyage round the world, visiting Japan, China, Java, and Ceylon, in 1874-5, and in 1876-7 he visited India. In 1878 he resided in Egypt, and during that year made a short journey to Syria and Palestine. He again visited Egypt in 1880-1. His works, a list of which is annexed, show the extent of his observations and thought on Ethnological, Geological, and Physical subjects. His Heliometer, mentioned with special distinction by Professor Balfour Stewart at the meeting of the British Association in 1883, is in constant use at Greenwich, and other scientific instruments invented or adapted by him, are in use at the Ben Nevis Observatory. For the last twenty years Mr Campbell has been well known to a large circle of Londoners. At Niddry Lodge were to be always found many of the most celebrated men of the day. Mr Campbell was a brother-in-law to Lord Granville, to Sir Kenneth S. Mackenzie of Gairloch, Bart., to Mr Henry Wyndham West, Q.C., Recorder of Manchester, and M.P. for Ipswich, and to the late Mr Bromley-Davenport. His chief published works are—"Popular Tales of the West Highlands," 4 vols., 1860-62. "Life in Normandy," his father's notes, edited, 2 vols., 1863. "A Short American Tramp, 1864," 1 vol., 1865. "Frost and Fire," 2 vols., 1865. "Gold Diggings in Sutherland," 1867. "Leabhar na Feinne," Gaelic texts, 1 vol. folio, 1872. "Glaciation of Ireland, quarto, Jour. Geol. Soc., 1873. "My Circular Notes, 2 vols., 1876. "Glacial Periods," 1 vol., 1883; and many pamphlets on various subjects.

A friend "who knew him well and loved him" writes—

"Wherever the Gaelic tongue is spoken, and wherever sturdy independence of thought, associated with geniality of temperament and manliness of character is highly esteemed, the death of John Campbell of Islay will be sincerely deplored. Devotedly attached to the land of his birth, and a keen student of its poetic traditions, he has enriched the literature of the country with a work which is likely to take a permanent place in the esteem of his fellow-countryman. The "Popular Tales of the West Highlands" must always have an enduring interest for every true lover of the region to which that excellent work relates, and can never fail to excite the patriotic fervour of every Highlander. Mr Campbell's life was devoted to the accumulation of the Folk Lore which reflects so accurately the sympathies, habits, and instincts of a people, and his labours were labours of love. This abiding memorial will be found in the hearts of those whom his writings have so much delighted, and a large circle of mourning friends have the melancholy satisfaction of feeling that their grief is shared by numbers who had not attained to the privilege of his personal friendship."

DEATH OF MR WALTER CARRUTHERS OF THE "INVERNESS COURIER."—We regret to announce the death of Mr Walter Carruthers of the *Inverness Courier*, who died at Gordonville on Friday, 21st February. Born in May 1829, Mr Carruthers had nearly completed his fifty-sixth year. He was educated at the Inverness Royal Academy and at Edinburgh University, finishing his course at Bonn, in Rhenish Prussia. During his residence abroad he acquired a good knowledge of French and German, and was well read in the literature of both countries. His first connection with the press was as Parliamentary reporter for the *Morning Chronicle*, then a leading organ of public opinion in England. In 1853 he joined his father, the late Dr Carruthers, on the staff of the *Courier*, becoming a few years later a partner and chief coadjutor in the business. He was one of the first to suggest Tonnahurich as the best site in the neighbourhood of Inverness for a public cemetery, and, along with Provost Macandrew, he was for a time secretary to the Cemetery Company. The handsome monument erected in Skye to the memory of Flora MacDonald was another work which Mr Carruthers assisted to accomplish. He married in 1856 the eldest daughter of the late Provost Ferguson, Inverness, who, with a large family, survives him.

DEATH OF GENERAL GRANT'S UNCLE.—Mr Roswell Grant, uncle of General Grant, has just died at Charleston, Virginia. Born in the year 1800, he was the last of a family of eight children, all of whom lived to an advanced age. During the Civil War deceased sympathised with the South, but he predicted that she would not succeed, because Ulysses, his nephew, was "on the other side, and understood his business." Mr Grant had voted for 17 Presidents, all of whom were elected.

"THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDER."—We are glad to intimate that the encouragement already received justifies the publishers of the *Celtic Magazine*, Messrs A. & W. Mackenzie, Inverness, in starting their proposed Highland newspaper, under the above title, in May or June next. Arrangements are in course of being made for securing suitable premises, and for the early publication of the paper. Meanwhile subscribers names and advertisements may be addressed to the Publishers, at 25 High Street, Inverness. The paper will be edited by Mr Alexander Mackenzie, F.S.A. Scot., editor of the *Celtic Magazine*.